ships and the country to which they belonged;

(c) whether any inquiry into the causes of their sinking has been conducted; and

(d) if so, the details of findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, M.V. 'Arcadia Pride' an Indian Flag vessel and M.V. 'Green Opal' a Panamian flag vessel sank/grounded in the Indian waters on 19th June 1997. In case of M.V. 'Green Opal' all the crew members were rescued whereas in case of M.V. 'Arcadia Pride' out of a total crew of 33 members, 9 could be rescued and 5 bodies recovered. Remaining 19 crew members are presumed to have died. Preliminary inquiries into the incident are being conducted by the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Departments at Mumbai and Calcutta respectively. The inquiry reports are expected to throw light on the extent of loss of property.

Dues of Goa from Mormugao Port Trust

891. SHRI JOHN. F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Goa Government have claimed dues from Mormugao Port Trust for using such land;

(b) if so, whether the land of MPT belong to Goa Government or stand transferred to MPT; and

(c) the dues so claimed by the State Government and for how many years?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (c) The State Government of Goa have raised a bill amounting to Rs. 6,16,20,853 as Lease Rentals and arrears during December, 1996 for the 128 acres of land allotted to the Mormugao Port by the then Goa Government during 1971 and between 1980 and 1983.

CHOMU and KOTA by-pass in Rajasthan

892. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government proposals for (i) alignment of CHOMU by-pass and (ii) construction of KOTA by-pass are pending for approval of the Central Government since 1990; and

(b) if so, the present stage of consideration and how much more time the Central government would take to accord/convey the necessary sanction to State Government?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) No such proposals are pending for consideration by the Central Government at this stage.

(b) Does not arise.

Facilities to entrepreneurs/private individuals/firms for development and construction of roads

893. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facilities extended to the entrepreneurs/private individuals/ firms in respect of development and construction of roads in the country;

(b) the details of projects in private sector received in respect of state of Karnataka during last one year;

(c) the status of such projects as on date and the details of incentives offered to the entrepreneurs in the State;

(d) whether Government have fixed any time limit for completion of these projects; and

(e) whether the State Government of Karnataka has asked for Central fund for such road project; if so, the details thereof including the time by when such assistance would be extended?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Facilities extended to the entrepreneurs/private individuals/firms involved in the development and maintenance of National Highways include Tax/fiscal concessions, reduction in import duty on highway construction equipments, cash support by NHAI, compensation for loss of revenue due to force majure conditions, treating housing and other development activities forming an integral part of the project as a part of road infrastructure for the purpose of tax concession.

(b) Nil.

(c) and (d) Do not airse.

(e) No, Sir.

हिसार से पीलीबंगां तक सड़क का विकास

894. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है हिसार (हरियाणा) से पीलीबंगां (राजस्थान) जाने वाली सड़क रक्षा सड़क (डिफेंस रोड) है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका निर्माण कब हुआ था तथा उसका रख-रखाव किसके द्वारा किया जाता है;

(ग) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि इस सड़क पर अनेक गढ्ढे हो गये हैं, विशेषकर हिसार से नौ किलोमीटर दूर आर्य नगर में ये गढ्ढे दो-दो फीट गहरे हैं तथा पिछले कई महीनों से ऐसी स्थिति है; और

(घ) उक्त सड़क की मरम्मत तथा पुनर्निर्माण न किये जाने के कारण क्या-क्या हैं तथा इस सड़क का पुनर्निर्माण कब तक कर दिया जायेगा?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री (श्री टी० जी० वेंकटरामन): (क) और (ख) जी हां। हिसार से पीलीबंगां तक की सड़क का दो-लेन विशिष्टयों के अनुरूप सुधार करने का कार्य सीमा सड़क संगठन द्वारा 1977-78 में अपने जिम्मे ले लिया गया था। सड़क का रख-रखाव सीमा सड़क संगठन द्वारा किया जाता है।

(ग) और (घ) अनुरक्षण एक निरंतर चलने वाली, प्रक्रिया है और यदि कोई कमी नजर आती है तो उसकी मरम्मत कर दी जाती है तथा सड़क को उपलब्ध निधियों के अंतर्गत यातायात-योग्य स्थिति में रखा जाता है। पानी के ठहराव के कारण आर्यनगर कस्बा क्षेत्र में सड़क को क्षति पहुंची है और इस पर ध्यान दिया जा रहा है।

Supply of road safety equipments to Maharashtra

895. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have supplied different types of road safety equipments to Maharashtra during the last three years to reduce road accidents in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the equipments supplied, year-wise;

(c) whether road accidents have decreased in the State thereafter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Portable Weigh Bridge and financial assistance of Rs. 25.00 lakhs for purchase of one crane and one ambulance under the National Highway Patrolling Scheme was given to the government of Maharashtra during 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.

(c) and (d) There is marginal increase in the number of road accidents during 1994 to 1996. However, accidents per thousand vehicles have decreased during 1996.

Ports handling cargo for exports and imports

896. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the ports in the country handling cargo meant for exports as well as imports in the country as on date with details of each port location-wise;